FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 JANUARY 1987

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi raids on Iranian cities continued 15 January, with Voice of the Masses carrying announcements of two attacks on Esfahan and other strikes on Tabriz, Dezful, and Hamadan. Iraqi planes reportedly shot down an Iranian F-14 while returning from one mission. However, Tehran radio stated that an Iranian fighter shot down one of two MiG-25's which raided Esfahan. IRNA said that 5 civilians were killed and 50 were injured in the two raids on Esfahan.

Reporting on the Karbala 5 offensive, IRNA claimed that Iranian forces captured an Iraqi command post on an island in the Shatt al-'Arab during a new attack launched late 15 January. An Iraqi brigadier general was among a group of prisoners taken. In the Karbala 6 sector, Iranian troops "smashed" new Iraqi counterattacks 15 January, IRNA said, adding that the Iraqi casualty toll in Karbala 6 had risen to 3,000 killed or wounded. Iraqi statements broadcast by Voice of the Masses reported that several Iranian attacks were repulsed by Iraq's II Army Corps, which killed over 500 Iranians and wounded many others.

Commenting on the war at a Friday sermon reported by IRNA, Iranian Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani stated that Karbala 5 is a "prelude" to Iran's "final offensive." He criticized the Soviet Union for supplying Iraq with surface-to-surface missiles, asserting that recent Iraqi missile attacks followed new deliveries of such weapons to the Baghdad regime. In a message to the Iranian nation broadcast by Tehran radio, President 'Ali Khamene'i emphasized that Iran must respond with a "hard blow" to Iraqi missile and air strikes.

Afghanistan

The Soviet Union and the DRA have reached agreements paving the way for the "complete return" of Soviet forces to the USSR, PDPA General Secretary Najibullah announced in a 15 January speech reported by BAKHTAR. However, future measures in this regard will depend on the steps taken by "the other side," which should "demonstrate reasonableness" and cease "aggression." Meanwhile, Defense Minister Mohammad Rafi' discussed the cease-fire and related issues at a press conference reported by Kabul radio, which noted that the journalists were shown samples of Stinger and Blowpipe missiles captured from "counterrevolutionaries."

As for the mujahidin's response to the cease-fire, AFP disclosed that leaders of seven major guerrilla organizations were continuing their meetings in Pakistan prior to announcing a "major declaration" 17 January. One mujahidin official stressed that the rebel leaders "must say something because a simple rejection of the cease-fire is not enough," the agency added. Mujahidin in Afghanistan attacked a DRA military convoy shortly after the cease-fire went into effect, killing three Afghan soldiers in an ambush near the Pakistani border, AFP reported. However, 225 members of Harakat-e Eslami in Laghman Province signed an agreement with DRA authorities promising to observe the cease-fire, according to Kabul radio.

A Pakistani Foreign Office spokesman cited by Karachi radio confirmed that his country welcomes the new trend of Soviet-DRA policy, asserting that the DRA's proposals "ratify" the position of the mujahidin by recognizing the need for the inclusion of their representatives in a government of national reconciliation.

Lebanon

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad received the Arab League good offices committee 15 January for talks on its mission, Damascus radio reported, noting that the Syrian leader wished the committee success in its efforts to end the camps war. However, Lebanese leftist parties "denounced" the committee's activities at a meeting reported by Beirut radio. The meeting in Beirut was attended by representatives of the Amal Movement and other pro-Syrian parties. Renewed fighting between Amal and Palestinian forces in Lebanon left 5 persons dead and 17 wounded, according to Voice of Lebanon radio.

Regarding the foreign hostages, Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite said his latest mission has made "very good progress," the Voice of Lebanon noted.

Israel

A spokesman for Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said there has been no change in the prime minister's stance on opposing the return of territories to Jordan, Jerusalem radio reported 15 January. Shamir had earlier told a REUTER correspondent in Jerusalem that his opposition to returning areas in Judaea and Samaria was not necessarily his last word in negotiations with Jordan, according to the radio.

Chadian-Libyan Conflict

Sudanese Mediation — Libya has agreed to allow Sudan to mediate in the ongoing war in Chad, according to a Libyan-Sudanese statement in Khartoum cited by SUNA. A Sudanese role in mediation is also favored by the Chadian Government, according to a "responsible source" at the Sudanese Foreign Ministry, SUNA reported. The source said a message handed to the Sudanese foreign minister by the Chadian charge d'affaires in Khartoum expressed interest in putting "an end to the ongoing conflict" and achieving "stability" in Chad.

Military Situation — A Chadian Government communique broadcast by Ndjamena radio reported the deaths of 76 Libyan soldiers and 4 Chadians in "violent fighting" in Zouar 13 January.

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Najibullah Calls for Cease-Fire Through 16 July

LD141832 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1530 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Address by PDPA Central Committee General Secretary Najib at opening session of the second National Fatherland Front conference in Kabul on 14 January — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Dear compatriots, elders, and chiefs, you the holders of the wisdom and experience of many centuries of our people, you who count yourselves Afghans. On this historical day we address your religious, national, and patriotic feelings. On behalf of the persecuted, but also proud people of the country, on behalf of our present and future history, we come to you. We address the conscience and patriotic feelings of the courageous children of the homeland, Pashtun, Tajek, Hazara, Uzbek, Turkmen, Baluch, Nurestani, Pashaii brothers and other tribes and clans of Afghanistan and all those who are sincerely interested in the prosperity and flourishing of our beloved homeland. On behalf of our persecuted compatriots and so as to bless the pure souls of the martyrs of the homeland, we come to you. We believe that Almighty God will assist us in this great stride.

The length and breadth of the heroic history of our people is full of the heroic struggle of our people for the protection of their right of possession and independence in their land and of their destiny. Our toiling people have always been dragged through poverty and injustice, through darkness and backwardness. Notwithstanding their overwhelming God-given talent and their possession of land, water, and sun, fertile valleys, healthy nature and rich natural resources, they have been deprived of the gains of their toils by oppressors and bloodsuckers. The exploiters, like leeches, have sucked the last drops of blood of our toiling people; bent their bodies and tied their hands and feet with the chains of slavery. However, neither the local exploiters nor the cunning colonialists succeeded in stopping the spirit of freedom and the eternal effort of our people for justice, prosperity, and a better life. Therefore, the April Revolution, as was the will of God, became the source of the realization of the ancient aspirations of our persecuted people. The April Revolution is from the people and for the people. The toiling compatriots of our homeland for the first time stood upright and a broad horizon opened up before them for a clear, peaceful, and prosperous life.

With the blessing of Almighty God we have set before us noble aims to bring Afghanistan, one of the poorest and most backward countries of the world, onto the highway of progress. In line with this aspiration, we began the construction of a new life and a new society where the toiling human being, his honor and dignity and his toil and freedom are counted as the most valuable assets. The April Revolution is the defense of the human dignity of every Afghan individual who loves freedom and does not prevent the prosperity of others. Human beings, particularly toiling creative and life-making human beings, are the wealth of every country.

God created human beings as his caliphs on earth. The revolution is a fact that defends the dignity of creative man, the caliph of God. The April Revolution is striving toward this goal and accomplishing this mission. No goal is more high and lofty a goal before the people of Afghanistan than the above.

In order to arrive at this goal, we are travelling a very difficult path and draw behind us the masses of the people. We have many friends. However, our enemies are also many who, with great hatred, are trying to stifle our revolution. They have waged an undeclared war against us and have caused limitless suffering for our people. Schools and sacred places have been set on fire, schools and hospitals destroyed, thousands of our innocent compatriots killed, and hundreds of new graveyards have come about in the country. The flood of tears of sorrow have replaced the smiles and laughter on the faces of our mothers, sisters, and daughters. Our country is the only country in the world that, as a result of the great tragedy of those killed, had to create the society of mothers of the martyrs of the path of revolution.

Dear compatriots. No one can hide himself from the trial of conscience, reality, or the difficult questions life has put before us. What for and in who's interest is this now 8 year old, undeclared war continuing? In whose interest is all this? Who are becoming rich at the expense of the blood of our people? Is the Almighty willing for the blood of his creators to be shed? These are the questions put forward by our compatriots, our men and women, our elderly and children, and all those who value the destiny of our persecuted people. You also think about these matters.

We know very well that the unleashing of war against our people is advantageous to the imperialists of the United States, Britain, and other imperialist countries and for those who hypocritically call themselves Afghans and Muslims, but have sold out their bodies and souls to the sworn and hated enemies of the people of Afghanistan. War and fratricide among the Muslims do not accord with the teachings of the Koran and are in contradiction to the interests of our people and the spirit of the new history of our country. War among Muslim Afghans is in complete and open contradiction to the essence of Islam, Mohammadan principles, and the verses of the Koran. Those who try to find religious justification for the continuation of this war are in fact engaged in trading faith and religious and Koranic tenets. They have no proof of their righteousness but instead attract excessive interest to themselves.

Dear brothers and sisters, you who carry the love of our persecuted homeland in your hearts: The people are tired of war; they want peace and tranquillity in their ancient homeland. The people no longer want to become blind instruments of the corrupt individuals who are living in luxury and comfort in the cities of Pakistan and Europe and are dragging our deceived and intimidated compatriots to the dungeons of inevitable death.

With the passing of every day the people realize that war and fratricide are only necessary to those who are filling their greedy purses with the looted peoples' property at the price of their sufferings and tears. These scavengers and thieves are no longer able to conceal the fact that they have collected gold in the banks and companies of Peshawar, Geneva, New York, and London, paid for by the blood of the people of Afghanistan.

The only wise measure in our condition is the speedy cessation of war, fratricide, the implementation of the policy of national reconciliation and the establishment of peace. This measure is a powerful blow at the imperialists and their mercenaries.

The PDPA Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council, and the Government of the DRA, the National Fatherland Front [NFF], the Council of Ulema, religious leaders, and the society of mothers of the martyrs of the path of revolution, in line with the official and nationwide policy of national reconciliation, openly and sincerely put forward the proposal of a cease-fire to the sides in the conflict. Let us cease bloodshed. When weapons are used, no place is left for logic. We cannot hear each other's voice under the sounds of ammunition and explosions. We officially announce that we will consistently observe the conditions of a cease-fire and will make every effort to achieve comprehensive peace.

We will safeguard traditional, religious, historical, and tribal customs and the customs of our forefathers in a sacred manner. We profoundly observe and respect the national and religious feelings of our people. We will strive to welcome all those who value the destiny of our people and country.

We categorically announce that all organs of the DRA have been instructed to:

1. cease firing all types of weapons and stop all combat operations in all areas including the air from 2400 [1930 GMT] 14 January;
2. all units of the DRA Armed Forces will receive instructions at 2400, 14 January, to return to their permanent military bases and resume peacetime activities;
3. the DRA Armed Forces will be ordered to carry out the tasks of protecting the state borders of the DRA, state and military establishments, and of maintaing the security of state and private transport convoys engaged in transporting goods and primary materials for the peaceful citizens of the country.

This is our kind and clean hand that has been extended to the opposition in a manly way, in the spirit of the very best traditions of our people. We want to shake your hands and we invite the opposition to do so.

What do we want from the opposition?

1. At 2400, 14 January, the opposition must follow our example and cease all types of weapons fire and stop combat operations in all areas, including in air.
2. The opposition must refrain from the transportation and storing of ammunition and all types of weapons systems throughout the territory of the DRA.
3. It must cease planting mines on the roads and pathways from the stated time.
4. It must refrain from engaging in all terrorist and subversive actions throughout the territory of the DRA.

We are ready, and invite the opposing side, to continue the cease-fire until 2400, 16 July 1987. We are resolutely ready to observe the conditions of the cease-fire without any preconditions, and we invite the opposing side to respond.

If, in response to our peaceful measures, the opposition and its armed detachments, or their groups and separate representatives engage in armed operations or terrorist or subversive actions against the people's power, such actions will receive an immediate and crushing reply from the DRA Armed Forces. This sort of measure will be a legal and just retribution against those who do not attach value to the will for peace of our people.

We would like them to understand us better. Our invitation to cease fire is not a mark of our weakness. It is the voice of wisdom of our people. It is for the cessation of futile bloodshed and the salvation of the life of our brothers and sisters.

Why do we propose a cease-fire? Firstly, until we do not stop war, we cannot understand each other's goals and aims. Like brothers and true Muslims we want to speak in a tranquil atmosphere. Secondly, we want to seek those things that bring us together, and not those that have so far separated us from each other. I believe that this matter shows our faith in Islam and our burning love for our common homeland and people. Thirdly, a cease-fire is necessary for the formation of the national commission and local extraordinary commissions concerning a national reconciliation and these commissions should be created on the basis of equality of the number of representatives of both sides.

We see the aims of the commissions to be as follows:

A. the creation of the necessary conditions for peaceful and constructive talks involving our brothers and all compatriots who have been away from the country temporarily;
B. the establishment of conditions for final peace and lasting tranquility in our land;
C. the preparation and convening of peace assemblies;
D. supervision of the sincere execution of the conditions of reconciliation;
E. the adoption of identical measures in the event of every sort of breach in the conditions of reconciliation.

The inhabitants of districts, subdistricts, and villages who engage in reconciliation can go freely to all parts of Afghanistan to see their relations and participate in the observation of religious festivals. Those who want to know the truth about the aims and tasks of the popular power can come directly to the PDPA Central Committee, to the Revolutionary Council, to the Council of Ministers, to extraordinary commissions, and to all party, state, and social organs. They will be warmly welcomed.

Centers for the distribution of primary consumer goods for all the needy, and health centers will be opened in all the provinces. We believe that a peaceful conversation between brothers and sisters, seperated from each other as a result of their lack of understanding of each other, will end in their unity. Such a trust has its source in the holy Koran. We would like to translate verse 10 of the 49th sura of the holy Koran which reads: Muslims are each others' brothers, make peace among the brothers and fear God so you may be forgiven. Brothers and sisters, think about the verses of the holy Koran. Are efforts and an invitation to reconciliation contradictory to the spirit of God's commands? We said what we wanted; the answer depends on you. We propose that, during the cease-fire, fraternal talks of mutual interest be carried out at all levels. We are ready for this and we guarantee the complete security of all those who talk to us. We count the conclusion of an agreement concerning complete and lasting peace in the land of the Afghans by both sides, a result in accord with the will of God. This agreement should be drafted in an

extraordinary assembly which will be convened for this purpose. Meanwhile we officially declare that:

1. The state power and local power, with guaranteed participation of the representatives of both sides who are trying for the lofty interests of the people, will be created after complete national reconciliation.
2. All those who have left the country as a result of deception, intimidation, and surveillance, will be allowed to return to their homes without any problem. The bosom of the homeland and the fraternal support and supervision by the state are awaiting them.
3. The following guarantees will be given to all political and military opponents of the state who are actively struggling against the people, provided they resolutely cease all struggle during the period of reconciliation:

a. general and permanent amnesty without the consideration of the weight of previous crimes or the severity of punishment;
b. those who are pardoned will enjoy all the rights and obligations of DRA citizens and could be elected to any rank, including high state ranks.

4. If the pardoned individuals stand against the people's power, they should be condemned to the severest punishment as a sworn lunatic and traitor to the homeland by a revolutionary and people's court.
5. After the establishment of final peace in the land of the Afghans and, in the event of nonresumption of interference from abroad, we, with heartfelt thanks and traditional warmth, will escort the internationalist soldiers of the Soviet Union to their homeland, because the strong need for their noble and selfless assistance will no longer exist.

Such are our proposals and noble aims for the salvation of our homeland. These proposals and aims are linked to our faith in the possibility of the establishment of peace in our homeland.

Dear compatriots, esteemed fathers and mothers, dear brothers and sisters: Support our noble invitation. Take away the hand of those who have raised weapons against their own people. The destiny of our homeland, its present and its future, are in our hands. May Almighty God direct your conscience and will to peace. God will be pleased with you. He completely sees righteousness.

Esteemed representatives of religious leaders, your invitation to maintain peace is the manifestation of the will of Almighty God. Say prayers in honor of the cease-fire. Turn your face to God to forgive those who extend the hand of brotherhood to each other and bring down its wrath on those who have rejected the cease-fire and who remain as blind weapons in the hands of the sworn enemies of our people.

We turn to the Afghans who, because of their faith, became the political and military opponents of the people's power and have taken up arms against its people. It is not yet too late. The homeland offers a last chance so that you may sincerely side with the people. If you act in such a way, general amnesty awaits you; your past will be forgotten; an honorable and worthy life awaits you. If you do not listen to the voice of reason and continue your war, the hatred of the people and a severe trial awaits you on behalf of our innocent compatriots and the killed, the elderly women and the orphans.

We turn to our neighbors, Iran and Pakistan: The fact that we are neighbors was not the choice of any one of us. It is due to the will of God. All of us are brothers from the religious viewpoint and historical destiny. Help us in stopping the war and the fratricide. The blood of the faithful, which has been shed for 8 years now, should not be shed any longer. Refrain from leaving your sacred territory at the disposal of those who have created misfortune and rebellion in order to make themselves wealthy and to bring death, suffering, and tears as gifts to our people.

We turn to the governments and people of all countries of the world, to international Islamic and social organizations: Help our persecuted people. Imperialists and their mercenaries, in this, the century of civilization and in front of the eyes of the whole world, are cold-bloodedly slaughtering one of the most ancient and most persecuted peoples of the planet. Raise your voice of indignation. Help to stop the crimes of the mercenary murderers. The noble people of Afghanistan will remember your help and support.

We are confident that all peoples of the planet, the faithful Muslims of all countries, and all those who desire prosperity and well-being for the people of Afghanistan, will recognize our sincere aspirations for the maintenance of peace in our homeland.

We are confident that all our compatriots and all those with true patriotic hearts will understand us. After 8 years of the bitter lessons of bloodshed, tears, smoke, and fire, let the announced cease-fire fulfill the aspirations of our persecuted people in practice. Instead of the sound of gunfire, let the sound of machines become heard. Let the trees of peace grow, and let the voices of the children who have come to the world in a free and peaceful Afghanistan, the cradle of our heroic ancestors, be heard. Let our mothers not be apprehensive of the future of their children.

The cease-fire comes into force at 2400 on 15 January. The hearts of the people of our homeland are open to all of those who can heed the commands of Almighty God and stop the bloodshed in the homeland of the Afghans.

Great courage is needed for this, a courage for which the Afghans have always been known. Let peace return to our persecuted homeland. Success comes from God.

15 Jan Speech Cited on Soviet Troop Withdrawal

LD160904 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0457 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Kabul, January 15, BAKHTAR: Najib, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan addressing the participants of the second congress of National Fatherland Front which is going on here, said:

With the expressed hope of speeding up the political solution of the situation around Afghanistan the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics have returned six regiments of its limited contingent

stationed in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan on the basis of request of our government.

The Soviet Union and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan have reached agreements paving the grounds for the complete return of the limited contingent of the Soviet Union to their peace-loving country. I want to point out that future measures on the part of the Soviet Union and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan will directly depend on the steps taken by the other side. We expect from those who have imposed the war on our people and are instigating the armed interference against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to demonstrate reasonableness, cease aggression against our country from outside, and provide international guarantees for its non-resumption.

It is appropriate to remind those who are supporting and financing the undeclared war that in case of the continuation of aggressions against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the Soviet Union will not let us alone. Our great northern neighbour is consistently supporting a non-aligned, independent, neutral, and sovereign Afghanistan, owner of its resources and wealths. Such a position meets the interests of all the genuinely patriotic Afghans wherever they are.

This position is part of the resolute struggle of the Soviet Union for the right of peoples for self-determination for peace and the prevention of the threat of a nuclear catastrophe.

We are paying special attention to the struggle for peace inside and outside the country, in the framework of the Non-Aligned Movement, the Islamic Conference, in our relations with neighbouring countries and the United Nations.

National Reconciliation Termed 'Logical Path'

LD151032 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Kabul, January 14, BAKHTAR — Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA, met elders, chieftains, and (?people's) representatives of Paktia, Paktika, Ghazni, Baghlan, Konduz, Takhar, and Badakhshan Provinces who are in the capital to participate in the second congress of the National Fatherland Front (NFF) of the DRA.

During the meeting Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand said that the National Reconciliation in the DRA is a manifestation of the peoples' will and necessity of our society. The national reconciliation, Keshtmand said, is the only logical path, through which nation-wide peace could be achieved in the country.

Representatives of the said provinces in their speeches supported the Islamic and humanistic policy of the party and state of the DRA and pledged their all sided support for securing national reconciliation. They also presented their views and proposals regarding the program of work of the extraordinary commissions for national reconciliation in their respective provinces.

Press Conference Held for Foreign Journalists

LD151918 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] A press conference was held this afternoon at the Storay Palace of the Foreign Affairs Ministry. Participating were those foreign journalists who had come to Kabul to take part in the Second Congress of the National Fatherland Front.

Comrade Brigadier General Mohammad Rafi', member of the Politburo and the DRA defense minister; Comrade Lieutenant General Gholam Faruq Yaqubi, member of the Politburo of the DPA Central Committee and the DRA minister of state security; Comrade Lieutenant General Sayed Mohammad Golabzoy, candidate member of the Politburo and the DRA minister of interior; and Sarwar Wyuresh, deputy minister of foreign affairs, answered the journalists' questions.

A BIA correspondent reports that the following topics were discussed at the press conference: the cease-fire regulations; the national reconciliation policy; the interference of imperialism in particular of the United States, and the deadly weapons, specialy Stinger and Blow-Pipe rockets made in the United States and England; and the equipping of elements linked to them with these weapons. The stand of the DRA Armed Forces regarding the cease-fire and national reconciliation were also explained to the journalists.

Samples of Stinger and Blow Pipe rockets, which security forces recently seized from counterrevolutionaries in Qandahar Province, were on display.

Group Signs Cease-Fire Observance Agreement

LD151818 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Following the cease-fire announcement broadcast last night by PDPA Central Committee General Secretary Comrade Najib on DRA radio and television, a group of 225 persons under the command of [name indistinct] Haq, members of the Harakat-e Eslami, today went to Alishang District in Laghman Province with their weapons. They talked with the secretary of the party district committee and with the head of the district. During the meeting the two sides signed an agreement on the observation of a cease-fire. According to the document the group promised to strictly observe the cease-fire and also to stop [as heard] any other groups breaching it.

Mujahidin Leaders Off Balance By Cease-Fire

BK151658 Hong Kong AFP in English 1646 GMT 15 Jan 87

[By Dimitri Kochko]

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, Jan 15 (AFP) — The Kabul government's ceasefire proposal has sown confusion among Afghan refugees and especially guerrilla leaders, who admit that they have scant experience in countering a diplomatic rather than military offensive. Kabul's unilateral ceasefire announced January 1 went into effect Wednesday for a six-month period.

Moslem mujahidin guerrilla leaders from seven major rebel groups have been meeting since Monday to draw up what they announced would be a major declaration to be released here Saturday.

An official from one of the seven groups, requesting anonymity, admitted that the mujahidin were less familiar with fighting in the political arena than on the field. "The resistance movement is weak in this respect," he said, because of a combination of factors including interior divisions and international stakes that go beyond its immediate concerns. "In any case, the leaders must say something because a simple rejection of the ceasefire is not enough," the rebel added. The leaders rejected the ceasefire immediately after it was announced, calling it a trap.

Another rebel leader of one of the more radical groups said that to simply reject the offer was "precisely what the Soviets want, in order to make us look like war-mongers."

Some refugees, weary of seven years of exile, have already begun preparing their return. Some have sold cars and jewelry for cash in anticipation of their return. "More refugees hope to return," a trader on the black market said to explain the rise in trading value of the afghani, from eight afghanis to the Pakistani rupee to 7.40 afghanis.

Radio Kabul has been broadcasting promsies of an Islamic regime, calling on "refugee brothers" — an address which has surprised refugees and left some of them confused, especially with resistance leaders remaining silent, according to Afghan refugee in Pakistan Nrasoul Mujahid.

A Western expert on Afghanistan based in Peshawar confirmed that feelings were mixed in the refugee community. Some felt they were going to be had, and others thought that Moscow was ready to make a serious offer, the expert said.

Some local guerrilla leaders have been rushing weapons into their regions, fearing a possible closing of Afghanistan's borders with Pakistan that could arise from indirect negotiations due to open next February 11 in Geneva.

100 Killed in Soviet-Kabul Bombing of Konduz

BK160853 Karachi Overseas Service in English
0800 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say nearly 100 civilians were killed in Konduz area of Konarha Province during bombing carried out by the aircraft of the Soviet-Kabul regime. Meanwhile, the siege of Barikowt cantonment by the mujahidin continues.

Mujahidin Down MiG-27 in Parvan; Hit Tanker

BK160852 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0600 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, the mujahidin shot down a MiG-27 type plane which was bombing civilian population near Charikar, the headquarters of Parvan Province on last Saturday [10 January], killing the crew on the spot.

Another report says the mujahidin also destroyed an oil tanker in Qandahar.

Kill Soviet-Kabul Troops in Parvan

BK141525 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] According to reports received from Afghanistan, fighting is continuing in many areas and mujahidin are inflicting heavy casualties on the Soviet and Kabul administration troops. In Parvan Province, many Soviet-Najib troops were killed in a clash, and three tanks were damaged. Mujahidin also captured a large quanity of arms and equipment. Another report says mujahidin repulsed a big attack in the Ab Band area of the Ghazni Province.

President Ershad Leaves for Indonesia Visit

BK130731 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] President Ershad left Dhaka this morning for Jakarta on a 4-day state visit to Indonesia. Among others Vice President A.K.M. Nurul Islam; Prime Minister Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, ministers, service chiefs, diplomats, and high civil and military officials were present at the Zia International Airport to see him off.

Before his departure, the president was given a guard of honor by a smartly turned out contingent drawn from the three services. President Ershad took the salute and inspected the guard. Begum Raushan Ershad accompanied the president. The president was also accompanied by a 30-member entourage including Information Minister Anwar Zahid and Jute Minister Zafar Imam.

Formal talks between Ershad and President Suharto will be held tomorrow. The two leaders are expected to discuss the whole gamut of bilateral relations. A memorandum of understanding on cooperation in the field of youth and sports activities will be signed.

Minister To Attend SAARC Secretariat 'Launching'

BK151605 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Humayun Rashid Chowdhury left Dhaka today for Katmandu to attend the formal launching of the SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] Secretariat tomorrow. The foreign ministers of six other SAARC countries will also assemble at the capital of the Himalayan kingdom tomorrow to participate at the ceremonial opening of the SAARC Secretariat. The Nepalese king, Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev, will formally inaugurate the secretariat in Katmandu.

The Bangladesh foreign minister is leading a seven member delegation. Bangladesh diplomat, Ambassador Abul Ahsan, will also formally assume the office of the secretary general.

USSR To Assist 'Vital Sectors' of Economy

BK150342 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
0110 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] The Soviet Union is ready to foster a mutually beneficial cooperation with Bangladesh through assistance to the country's vital sectors of the economy. A spokesman of the Soviet Embassy in Dhaka yesterday said there is a vast scope of cooperation in sectors like energy, development, industry, and joint ventures, particularly in textiles and ready-made garments. A team of Soviet experts is also expected in Dhaka next week for formal commissioning of the third unit of the Ghorasal power plant. The spokesman said Moscow is also ready to build the fourth and the fifth units of the plant to make it the largest power project with the total capacity of 740 megawatts. The spokesman also listed railway communications and bridge construction, particularly the (Rupcha) bridge, as the other important sectors where the Soviet Union is ready to extend assistance.

Danish Prime Minister Continues Visit

Holds News Conference

BK141631 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] The Danish prime minister, Mr Poul Schluter, has said that his government is opposed to any kind of terrorist activity and will not allow terrorists to use Denmark as a base of anti-Indian activities. Replying to questions at a news conference in New Delhi today, Mr Schluter said he does not believe that any Indian terrorist has been granted refugee status in his country. He said his country grants asylum only to a limited number of people who are true refugees.

Mr Schluter, who is on a weeklong visit to India, answered a number of questions on peace, disarmament, apartheid, and the Star Wars program. He said all these issues figured during his talks with the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, yesterday. The major part of their dialogue centered round on questions of halting the arms race, narrowing the gap between the rich and the poor nations, and the problem of South Africa. In many of these areas we have the same views.

Answering a question on President Reagan's Star Wars program, the Danish prime minister said the outer space should be used for peaceful purposes only. On disarmament, Mr Schluter wanted a foolproof agreement and said it should be reached as soon as possible.

On the question of ending apartheid in South Africa, the Danish prime minister said his country has taken strong economic measures against South Africa and will persuade all members of the European Economic Community to adopt similar measures.

Mr Schluter said his country wants to increase bilateral trade with India for which enough scope exists.

Terms Talks 'Candid;' Leaves Capital

BK151022 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] The prime minister of Denmark, Mr Poul Schluter, has expressed the hope that the racist South African regime will take note of the growing world opinion against apartheid. Talking to newsmen at the New Delhi Airport, he said in Europe they have taken very wide-ranging measures against South Africa. The U.S. Congress has also taken steps which appear to be limited but constitute a historic development. These steps, he hoped, will influence other countries around the world. This is just a beginning and South Africa should take a note of it.

The Danish prime minister said he had a candid discussion with Mr Rajiv Gandhi on various world issues. He said Mr Gandhi gave him India's assessment of the problems in the South Asian region. On the prospects of expanding bilateral economic cooperation, Mr Schluter said there is immense scope in the field of industry. These cover electronics, non-conventional sources of energy like modern windmills and solar energy, fishing vessels, and agro-industries. He said his delegation had useful exchange of ideas with the associations of Indian businessmen.

Mr Schluter, who is on a week-long state visit to the country, left for Bhubaneswar at the end of his 3-day stay in the capital. The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, some central ministers and other dignitaries gave him an affectionate send off at the airport. Before boarding the plane, he inspected an interservices guard of honor.

Mr Schluter has since arrived in Bhubaneswar.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Makes Stopover

BK141603 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] The Pakistan foreign minister, Mr Yaqub Khan, arrived in New Delhi this evening on his way to Nepal to attend the SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] foreign ministers conference. He will be leaving for Katmandu tomorrow. The external affairs minister, Mr Tiwari, received him at the airport.

Speaking to newsmen, Mr Yaqub Khan reiterated Pakistan's determination not to give bases to any foreign power. Asked what then was the hitch in signing a treaty of peace, cooperation, and friendship with India, he said it is one thing not to give bases to a foreign country but quite another to state this in a bilateral agreement and abridge one's sovereign right in regard to the future choice.

Reportage on Tiwari's Visit to Vietnam

For Hanoi reportage on the visit to Vietnam by Minister of External Affairs N.D. Tiwari, including talks held with SRV officials and reception speeches, see the Vietnam section of the 12 January Asia & Pacific *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Punjab Minister Welcomes Talks With Gandhi

BK141319 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] The Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has welcomed the prime minister's invitation to him for discussions in New Delhi on the outstanding problems and issues facing the state. Addressing a convention of the ruling Akali Dal in Muktsar today, he reiterated his commitment to the Punjab accord. He accused the breakaway group led by Mr Prakash Singh Badal of obstructing the smooth and early implementation of the accord. He said nobody can be allowed to hold to ransom the progress and prosperity of the state.

A similar convention was held by the breakaway group of Akali Dal led by Mr Badal. It demanded the early release of the Jodhpur jail detenues and [detainees] and a judicial inquiry in the (Bramhapura) incident in which some CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] personnel allegedly harassed the villagers.

Gandhi Seeks Residents' Protection

BK141611 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] The prime minister has said the country is greatly exercised over the state of lawlessness and terrorism in Punjab. In a communication to the chief minister, Mr Barnala, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said gruesome killings in the last few days have been particularly shocking. Releasing its contents in New Delhi, an official spokesman said that yesterday's communication inviting Mr Barnala for talks on all aspects of the Punjab problem on Friday is a follow up of his letter written earlier.

The prime minister pointed out in this letter that after the Khura killings, he had told the state government to exert to the utmost to check deterioration in the situation. The Punjab chief minister had assured him that stern steps will be taken. Mr Gandhi pointed out that the situation has worsened so much now that even women and children are not being spared by the terrorists. The prime minister said he expected Mr Barnala to show greater determination to protect people's life and property.

Reportage on Punjab 'Terrorist' Incidents

2 Killed; BJP Leader Fired Upon

BK160320 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] In Punjab, two persons were killed and seven injured in two separate incidents of terrorist activities last night. In Jullundur District one person was killed and six injured when three suspected terrorists opened indiscriminate fire in Kartarpur town. In Gurdaspur City, two unidentified gunmen opened fire on a BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] leader, Mr Roshan Lal. While Mr Roshan Lal escaped, two persons, including his body-guard, were seriously injured. The gunmen took away the sten gun of the injured bodyguard. The bodyguard is reported to have succumbed to his injuries later in the hospital.

AFP Relates Incidents

BK151638 Hong Kong AFP in English 1624 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Amritsar, Jan 15 (AFP) — Suspected Sikh militants in Punjab killed three people overnight while Indian border forces shot dead five intruders from Pakistan in the troubled northern state, police said here Thursday. The intruders died in gunbattles with para-military Border Security Forces (BSF) in three incidents in the Khem Karan sector of the border with Pakistan, police said. Four others managed to flee back into Pakistani territory while one man was caught by the BSF, they added. Police did not identify the intruders although Indian authorities have said that most border intrusions involve Sikh militants returning from military training in Pakistan or those involved in drug smuggling to India.

Islamabad has rejected the Indian charge of aiding the militants fighting for a homeland in the only Sikh-majority state.

Suspected Sikh militants, meanwhile, shot dead a senior Indian Army officer and his sister-in-law in a raid on their home in Patti village, 55 kilometres (33 miles) from this Sikh holy city late Wednesday, police said. Lt Col Sant Singh Bhullar, 42, and his brother's wife Kulwant Kaur, 35, were shot late Wednesday at their home in Patti village, police said. Col Bhullar's brother, retired police officer Harbans Singh, and his teenage niece were seriously wounded in a hail of automatic gunfire by eight to 10 Sikhs who also tried to set their house on fire, he said. Responsibility for the attack was claimed by the militant "Tat Khalsa" group led by Avtar Singh Brahma, one of Punjab's most wanted Sikh militants who carries a 100,000-rupee (8,000-dollar) reward on his head. A note left at the scene said Col. Bhullar, of the Infantry Training School in southern India, had been "punished" for "descrating" a Sikh temple in Muktsar during the June 1984 army action in Punjab to flush out militants using temples as sanctuaries.

In another incident in Tehpur village near the industrial town of Jullundur suspected Sikh militants gunned down a local resident Wednesday night, the *Press Trust of India* said. The identity of the victim was not known.

Thirty-six people have died in separatist-related violence in Punjab since the start of the year.

Repatriation of Chamka Refugees Delayed

BK151609 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] In Tripura, the repatriation of Chakma refugees to Bangladesh could not take place as they refused to go back without the assurance of full security of life and property. The state chief minister, Mr Nripen Chakroberti, told our Agartala correspondent this evening that unless the law and order situation across the border improves the refugees do not consider it safe to return. The state government has now referred the matter to the External Affairs Ministry and is awaiting instructions.

Paper Reports Details on Soviet AWACS Offer

BK151517 Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 5 Jan 87 p 1

[Text] New Delhi, January 4 (UNI) — The Soviet Union has unveiled its AWACS to India as the United States is discussing the sale of AWACS aircraft to Pakistan. The Soviets have offered the giant military tactical tranport aircraft Il-76 in the AWACS role. A presentation of this was made to the defense ministry recently.

The Indian Air Force is not in favor of the Soviet AWACS as defense experts point out that the Il-76 fitted with a rotodome is not able to pick up low-flying targets with great precision. They say the Il-76 rotodome lacks the sophistication of the American AWACS. The U.S. can pick up about 1,000 airborne targets including low-flying aircraft and its radar display is very clear and can sort out the ground clutter problem.

Defense experts also feel if the AWACS aircraft are imported the indigenous aerospace surveillance warning and control (ASWAC) program will be severely jeopardized. Two HS-748 aircraft have been chosen for this project initially. But the task of fitting them with latest avionics and electronics has already been pushed behind by 1 year because of bureaucratic delays. Experts say Indian Air Force must be provided with some form of airborne early warning system by 1990 and so work on the indigenous ASWAC should be speeded up.

If the present ASWAC program goes through,then a full-scale system will be ready in mid-1990 and will be most probably on the jet transport aircraft frame, either the Boeing-737 or the Airbus A-320.

The experts feel that if the Soviet AWACS was introduced at this stage, the indigenous ASWAC program has to be substantially curtailed without giving the Indian Air Force the kind of capability it really needs. It could also spur the United States to introduce its own AWACS to counter the Soviet AWACS in the region.

The Soviet Il-76 AWACS codenamed by NATO as "Mainstay" still needs to incorporate the data link facility between the airborne early warning system and ground air defense environment and the ability to control aircraft like the Jaguars, the Mirage-2000, and a number of American radars which are still with the Indian Air Force.

The AWACS being offered to Pakistan is the E-3A Sentry which has an airborne, survivable and jamming resistant higher capacity radar station, and common, control and communications center.

If Pakistan gets the American AWACS at all, then it would have the capability of long-range high-level or low-level surveillance of all types of aircraft, manned or unmanned. It would also have tremendous detection, tackling, and identification capability in all weathers and in all kinds of terrains.

Foreign Office Welcomes Soviet-Afghan Offer

BK151635 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Pakistan has welcomed the recent proposals from the Soviet Union and Kabul about the Afghanistan issue, which is evidence of a new trend in their thinking — giving up the pursuit of a military solution and joining the efforts to promote a political settlement. A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen in Islamabad today that the trend has been welcomed as it not only vindicated the stand of Pakistan but also of a majority of other countries who favor a political settlement of this issue.

In reply to a question, he said Kabul's proposals also ratify the Afghan freedom fighters' position as these proposals recognize the need for the inclusion of representatives of the Mujahidin in the government in Kabul for reconciliation and for establishing peace in Afghanistan.

In reply to a question about Pakistan's response to the offer of a cease-fire and formation of a national government in nonaligned and independent Afghanistan, the spokesman said Pakistan, from the outset, has been stressing the need for a political settlemnt of the Afghanistan issue. Asked if the question of formation of a national government and cease-fire will be discussed at the Geneva talks, the spokesman said these negotiations have nothing to do with the internal affairs of Afghanistan. The Geneva negotiation process has been dealing with the international aspects of this issue, which include withdrawal of foreign forces, noninterference in internal affairs, making satisfactory arrangements for the return of Afghan refugees and matters like providing for international guarantees.

In reply to a question, the spokesman said Afghan refugees will be consulted about the arrangements for their return home. Internal peace and reconciliation will be the basic factor for the implementation of the settlement acheived through the Geneva negotiations.

Asked if the cease-fire in Afghanistan will be effective, the spokesman said that the objective of a cease-fire cannot be acheived unilaterally. Afghan Mujahidin are the other party to the fighting, and a cease-fire needs their concurrence, which was denied by them.

In reply to a question, the spokesman said Pakistan wants the withdrawal of Soviet forces not in years but in months. This duration should be determined on the basis of the arrangement for the return of the forces, and it should not take more than a few months.

In reply to another question, the spokesman said the comprehensive solution of the issue is that all sides should accept the settlement. Apart from the two interlocuting countries of Pakistan and Afghanistan, two other countries are to provide international guarantees — the United States and the Soviet Union. Iran and the Mujahidin are also parties to this issue. If an agreement is reached for the withdrawal of forces within a reasonable time, then all the sides will accept the settlment.

The spokesman said the comprehensive settlement Pakistan is striving to achieve through years of Geneva talks provides for the means of implementing the agreement for Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan. The spokesman said there has been considerable progress at the talks on noninterference, international guarantees against interference, return of refugees, and other issues such as ways of supervising the settlement. The question of the troop withdrawal timeframe is still pending, and this issue should be settled for the early restoration of peace in Afghanistan.

Soviet Envoy Meets Zia, Gives Gorbachev Message

BK151530 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Soviet Ambassador Abdul-Rakhman Vezirov called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Islamabad today and exchanged views with him on matters of mutual interest. The Soviet ambassador also delivered a new year's greeting message to the president from Soviet Communist Party leader Gorbachev.

'Strong Protest' Over Afghan Airspace Violation

BK150520 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu
0500 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Two Afghan aircraft intruded into Pakistani airspace and dropped two bombs on the (Daroch) area of Chitral District on 11 January, injuring one child. The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office yesterday afternoon, and a strong protest was lodged with him over this unprovoked attack. He was asked to convey to his authorities that if such attacks are not stopped, all responsibility for their serious consequences will rest with the Kabul regime.

Foreign Minister on Ties With India, U.S. Bases

BK150249 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has said that Pakistan and India have made a good beginning toward normalization of bilateral relations and that they will spare no effort in achieving this objective. He was talking to newsmen at the New Delhi airport yesterday evening while on his way to Katmandu where he will attend the inauguration of the permanent secretariat of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation [SAARC]. He said he will have talks with his Indian counterpart Tiwari in the Nepalese capital to carry forward the process initiated at last month's negotiations between the foreign and interior secretaries of the two countries. He expressed confidence that his talks with the Indian external affairs minister will help further improve relations between India and Pakistan. The people of the two countries, he said, also desire to see an improvement in relations.

The foreign minister said Pakistan will play a positive role in the SAARC, which will also help in improving relations between India and Pakistan.

About foreign bases, Yaqub Khan again made it clear that Pakistan has neither provided any base to any foreign country nor does it intend to do so. The United States, he reiterated, has not asked for any base.

Junejo Arrives in Karachi To Assess Situation

BK151717 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1700 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo arrived in Karachi this evening where he will assess the situation in the city and will exchange views with the provincial administration. Members of the National Assembly from all four provinces and senators are accompanying him.

Mohammad Khan Junejo will preside over a high-level meeting tomorrow that will be attended by senators from Karachi and members of federal and provincial assemblies. The meeting will also be attended by ministers, senators, and National Assembly members accompanying the prime minister.

1 Killed, 20 Injured 15 Jan

BK151650 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] According to a press note issued by the Karachi Administration this evening, today some miscreants in Liaqatabad disturbed the law and order situation. Besides pelting stones, creating road barricade, and setting old tires, etc on fire, the miscreants damaged a petrol pump and the furniture of a bank. In the afternoon, the miscreants started hurling petrol bombs, stabbing policemen, and also fired shots. As a result, additional superintendent of police, West, received bullet injury in the arm and was hospitalized. Three more policemen also got injured.

Police took action and dispersed the violent crowd. Among the public, 1 person was killed and 20 injured; 12 persons were arrested. However, in order to restore peace and normalcy, curfew was imposed at 1700 till further order in the area of Liaqatabad Police Station. In New Karachi, curfew will be relaxed from 0700 to 0900 and 1500 to 1700 tomorrow.

The district administration has announced that curfew in Hyderabad and Latifabad will be relaxed from 1300 to 1530 tomorrow.

Indian Comment on Foreign Mercenaries Protested

BK131506 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1310 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Colombo, Jan 13 (LANKA PUWATH) — Sri Lankan Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs Tyronne Fernando summoned the Indian high commissioner, R.N. Dixit, today to protest about the statement made by the Indian foreign secretary in the United States (U.S.) to the effect that there are foreign mercenaries in Sri Lanka helping the Sri Lankan security forces, states a press release issued by the Foreign Ministry in Colombo today.

The following is the official statement of the Government of Sri Lanka in this connection which was handed over to the Indian high commissioner. Sri Lanka high commission in New Delhi has also been advised to lodge a protest with the Indian Foreign Office regarding this matter.

"The Sri Lanka Government strongly condemns the statement of the Indian foreign secretary in Washington reported on All India Radio to the effect that foreign mercenaries are assisting the Sri Lanka security forces.

"This statement apart from exhibiting an unfortunate disregard for the facts, suggests disrespect for the Sri Lanka security forces and is not the sort of responsible statement one should expect from an Indian foreign secretary.

"The Indian foreign secretary should help to locate and curb terrorists operating from his own country, whose menace the Sri Lankan forces are combating. He may well find there foreign mercenaries apart from the terrorists from Sri Lanka who are themselves foreign to Indian soil.

"While, in any event, reserving to ourselves the right to employ anyone, including foreigners, should this menacing situation demand it, the Sri Lankan Government expects the Indian foreign secretary to withdraw his statement and co-operate more fully with his leader, the Indian prime minister, in properly exercising the 'good offices' offered by India".

India Said 'Blowing Hot, Cold' on Tamil Issue

BK161111 Colombo DAILY NEWS in English 8 Jan 87 p 4

[Editorial: "The Continuing Crisis"]

[Text] It could doubtless serve vested interests to drag on the present unrest in the north and in the east of the island. The LTTE — and the remnants of other wolf or tiger packs, too — could still be nursing the illusion of regrouping their forces and staging a comeback. It could be that they are loath to accept the reality that, slowly but steadily, they are becoming a spent force.

Thus, the notion of an indefinite succession of roundtable conferences seems hardly calculated to achieve the repeatedly proclaimed goal of ending the hostilities.

The terms of settlement offered by the Sri Lankan government have won the acclaim of influential circles — even of the Indian press. Several Indian papers have even openly acknowledged that President Jayewardene has gone as far as one could expect any statesman to go.

Negotiations must not degenerate into any unending conundrum. We do not want a running sore in this country. Doubtless, India is concerned with events on our soil. As a neighbour, that is understandable. But it would afford greater evidence of her concern for peace and stability if she could exert some of the pressures on the Tamil militants, which she is reportedly seeking now to exert on the government of this country.

All-India Radio, for example, is quoted as having said that India had warned [previous word in italics] Sri Lanka against using military operations to settle the ethnic problem. Has it not occurred to the Indian authorities that it might be equally relevant to say the least, to offer a similar admonition or caution to the Tamil separatists?

This issue is now to be discussed at ministerial level. But those extending their good offices ought not to give the impression that they are blowing hot and cold at the same time. India was reported to have reacted strongly against the LTTE when the latter ventured on a shootout with local people in Madras. The violence committed by that very organisation does not assume a more conciliatory character or cause less damage when it is committed on this side of the Palk Strait.

The terrorists themselves must grow wise even from sorrow, even from a recognition of their own mistakes. They cannot aspire to any exclusive right to kill. If they do not lay down arms, they can hardly complain if the security forces take action against them. That is a basic of law and order. The Tamils, Tigers or others, cannot protest at discrimination and claim a right to indulge in that very iniquity themselves.

Nor can India morally — or with honour to herself — display a partisanship that compromises all the principles she has enunciated at home and abroad, both before and after independence. True, the Mahatma is dead. But is nothing left of Gandhi but his name?

Minister Urges LTTE To Come Forward for Talks

BK151153 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] The security forces surrounded the last terrorist stronghold in the Eastern Province last morning. The minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, said that the fighting in the area was still continuing.

Speaking at a religious ceremony at the (Purana Vihara Sthaniya) in (Rambulla), Kegalla, Mr Athulathmudali explained that fuel supplies to Jaffna had been temporarily suspended because of the threat by the terrorists to set up a civil administration in Jaffna. The minister pointed out that if the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] had any regard for the people of Jaffna, what they should do now is to come forward for discussions on the government proposals. He said that the final solution to the ethnic problem could be reached only through

negotiation. Whatever the solution, it must be acceptable to all communities.

The minister noted that at this juncture everyone to accept the unitary status, he said, the present problem cannot be compared to any crisis faced in the history of this country. [sentence as heard]

No Fuel to Jaffna Until 'Militants' Talk Peace

BK111459 Hong Kong AFP in English 1410 GMT 11 Jan 87

[Text] Colombo, Jan 11 (AFP) — Sri Lankan troops have destroyed a Tamil militant hideout in the east, while the government has warned that no fuel will reach Jaffna in the north until the militants are prepared to talk peace.

Suspected Tamil separatists abducted and killed a Moslem man in the Trincomalee District in the east Saturday, official sources said.

Troops destroyed a Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam hideout in Karadiyanaru near Batticaloa in the east late Saturday, injuring an unknown number of Tamil separatists, informed sources here said Sunday.

The government has also warned the LTTE, the strongest militant group campaigning for a separate state in the north and east, that it will starve the Jaffna peninsula of fuel until the militants agree to talk peace, the island newspaper here said Sunday, quoting an authoritative government source. However, a LTTE spokesman in Jaffna said that the group would not be driven to the negotiating table by such pressure. "If the government wants to negotiate with us it must come in a peaceful manner. It must not try to force us to the table," said Selvarajah Kanagaratnam, alias Captain Rahim, the 20-year-old northern deputy leader of the LTTE. The tigers will not "bow down to that," he said.

The government banned fuel supplied to the Jaffna peninsula on January 2, a day after the LTTE said it would centralize some of the aspects of civil administration it was handling in areas under its control. Virtually all transport in the Jaffna peninsula, the centre of Tamil separatism, has come to a halt except for a few private vehicles running intermittently, and all transport would grind to a halt early next week, Mr Kanagaratnam said. Sources said the Tigers were trying to smuggle fuel into Jaffna from the east and northwest aboard sailing boats, but the LTTE denied this. Kerosene for cooking has also become scarce because of the ban, but the official Media Centre said Sunday that a large number of lorryloads of wood for fuel had crossed into the area Saturday.

A journalist working for a Jaffna newspaper said Sunday that the LTTE had strengthened its forces around government camps in the north, with roadblocks and some 50 separatists on watch around each camp.

Security sources said that Jaffna was quiet Sunday, but that troops were maintaining an intense patrolling routine and were prepared for any attack from the separatists.

Mr Kanagaratnam denied that the LTTE intended to run a parallel administration in Jaffna. "Some of the duties which the government performed are not being done any longer. There are hundreds of unregistered vehicles without any licence plates running in Jaffna and nobody bothers," he said. The LTTE is simply trying to bring some order to traffic, he added. However, National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said the LTTE had also "been charging taxes illegally from people in Jaffna. It amounts to extortion and people have protested."

Police Prevent Petroleum Complex Explosion

BK151137 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0833 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Colombo, Jan 15 (LANKA PUWATH) — The Sri Lanka police today prevented a massive explosion at the Kolonnawa petroleum installation in Colombo, a senior police official told LANKA PUWATH. He said that the attempt by terrorists to plant a massive time bomb inside a petroleum bowzer which was going empty to the principal depot at Kolonnawa about six miles from Colombo Fort was a reprisal for the stoppage of fuel to the Jaffna Peninsula by the Sri Lankan Government.

Meanwhile the Wellawatte police in Colombo-6 early this morning captured a terrorist bomber. The man was armed with what police described as a lethal bomb which could have destroyed many lives, official sources told LANKA PUWATH. The sources said that two police constables patrolling the rail track along the sea front at Wellawatte about 10 km from Colombo Fort had ambushed two men at 0315 hours (local time). One of them was arrested while the other escaped.

Patrol of Telecommunications Building Continues

BK160925 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0705 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Colombo, Jan 16 (LANKA PUWATH) — Security forces continued to patrol the telecommunication buildings and the chest clinic areas in Jaffna last night, the Media Centre in Colombo told LANKA PUWATH. It said the terrorists did not attempt to engage any of the patrols nor the terrorists were spotted.

Three LTTE terrorists including the area leader identified as Kumar were shot dead by the security forces in a dawn raid on a LTTE hideout at Navatkudi-Kiran in eastern Sri Lanka yesterday. One 36 mills grenade, 2 cylinders, 200 yards of wire, one radio, 2 push bicycles, and food items including biscuits and soft drinks were recovered from the scene.

In another incident one terrorist was killed when security forces opened fire at a group of terrorists who attacked them with hand grenades near the Mandur junction off Kalawanchikudi in eastern Sri Lanka on Wednesday night. One shot gun, one push bicycle, and five cartridges were recovered from the scene.

On the same day 5 terrorists belonging to the LTTE, EPRLF [Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front], EROS [Eelam Revolutionary Organization of Students], and TELO [Tamil

Eelam Liberation Organization] groups were captured by security forces at Adampalam, south of Kalamunai. Meanwhile another terrorist was killed in a shootout between the security forces and terrorists at Savalkadai, west of Kalamunai.

At Karadiyanaru, 4 terrorists belonging to the EROS group were arrested by a security force patrol. While at Pattachenai several hand grenades, two AK-47 rifle magazines, and twenty eight rounds of ammunitions were recovered from an EROS hideout in a raid by the security forces yesterday.

Navy Intercepts Boat; PLOTE Members Killed
BK140902 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0838 GMT 14 Jan 87

[Text] Colombo, Jan 14 (LANKA PUWATH) — The Sri Lankan Navy intercepted a large fast moving boat coming from the direction of Tamil Nadu off Madagal, northern Sri Lanka last Tuesday. Official sources told LANKA PUWATH three outboard motors were fitted to the boat and there were 10 persons on board. The boat did not stop when challenged and the Navy shot and destroyed the boat. There were no survivors.

A large number of AK-47 rifles, ammunition, hand grenades, South Indian newspapers and LTTE literature wrapped in polythene were later found in bits and pieces amidst the floating debris.

Meanwhile, at Mullaittivu in northern Sri Lanka, Kingsley Rajah, an area leader of the Peoples Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOTE) who surrendered to the security forces, stated that 15 members of his gang were killed by the LTTE.

At Kovilpuram in Vavuniya District a band of armed terrorists forced open the house of Ramasamy Ravindrarajah and robbed cash and jewellejy worth RS. 43,000. Two terrorists belonging to the LTTE gang were captured by security forces in Vavuniya on a tip off yesterday.

In another incident at Eravur in Batticaloa, eastern Sri Lanka, one terrorist was shot dead by a security forces patrol when they opened fire at a gang of terrorists who attacked them while guarding a railway track. One exploder and seven empty cases of 7.62 ammunition were recovered from the scene.

Karainagar 'Terrorist Attack' Repulsed
BK130811 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0745 GMT 13 Jan 87

[Text] Colombo, Jan 13 (LANKA PUWATH) — Several separatist terrorists were believed wounded when government troops effectively repulsed a terrorist attack at Karainagar, northern Sri Lanka last Sunday [11 January]. Official sources told LANKA PUWATH that terrorists fired small arms from the Kayts beach towards the security forces camp. Troops returned fire wounding several terrorists.

In another incident at Mullaittivu yesterday terrorist fire killed a security forces person identified as L. K. Jayaratne of Wellawa.

At Vandaramoolai, Batticaloa, eastern Sri Lanka last Sunday six terrorists belonging to the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation, and the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front were captured by troops.

Local Tamil Eelam Leader Killed; Bomb Defused
BK101049 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0958 GMT 10 Jan 87

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Jan 10 (LANKA PUWATH) — The local leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam was killed and a number of other terrorists were seriously wounded when government troops fired at separatist terrorists hiding in the island of Nasamantivu, in eastern Sri Lanka last Thursday, the Media Centre in Colombo told LANKA PUWATH.

Meanwhile, a police patrol detected a bomb hidden inside a gunny bag of rice in a shop 300 yards away from the police station at Vavuniya in northern Sri Lanka yesterday. The bomb was timed to explode at 1530 hours (local time). Police defused the bomb.

CSSR's Bohumil Urban Continues Tehran Visit

Views Non-Oil Goods With Ja'fari

LD151428 Tehran IRNA in English 1346 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 15, IRNA — Visiting Czechoslovak Minister of Foreign Trade Bohumil Urban in a meeting with Commerce Minister Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari here Thursday announced his country's desire to import non-oil goods besides crude oil from Iran. Urban said that 22 percent of Czechoslovakia's total imports from Iran is made up of industrial products and minerals. He also proposed that Iranian industrialists and export companies take part in the international exhibition held annually in the Czechoslovak city of Brno in order to further introduce Iranian non-oil goods on the world market.

The Czechoslovak minister also invited Ja'fari to pay an official visit to Prague and inspect his country's advanced technology and industrial facilities.

In response, Ja'fari said that Iran's economic policy is to make the country self-sufficient. He added that Iran's volume of trade with Western countries, which had already decreased by nearly 30 percent over the past few years, would be further cut in the future. The Islamic Republic favors expansion of relations with Muslim and East European countries, Ja'fari said.

The commerce minister noted that Iran not only is self-sufficient in manufacturing most of consumer goods but also exports some of these commodities.

Meets Musavi, Bank Official

LD151909 Tehran IRNA in English 1610 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 15, IRNA — Visiting Czechoslovak Foreign Trade Minister Bohumil Urban conferred with Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi Thursday. Urban briefed the prime minister on his talks with Iranian officials and emphasized that his country is willing to expand relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Expressing satisfaction on the trend of Tehran-Prague relations, Musavi mentioned the Islamic Republic's policy of promoting relations with Eastern European states, and expressed hope the two countries' relations would reach a desirable level.

Noting the economic progress of Iran, Premier Musavi said despite the 11 million population growth during the last decade, and the active defense in the Iraqi-imposed war, the Islamic Revolution has been able to safeguard its principles and stand on its feet without relying on any foreign power. The prime minister said the past bitter experience of taking loans has taught Iranian people not to borrow loans from any foreign power.

At the end of the meeting the Czech foreign trade minister remarked that Iran, compared to many countries, especially some Arab states with huge financial reserves, has less problems. The Iranian economic situation is amazing and such a situation is possible through a strong government and system.

Meanwhile, Urban also met the governor-general of Bank Markazi (Central Bank) Majid Qasemi, Thursday. During the meeting the two sides discussed mutual trade relations. Qasemi said the Islamic Republic of Iran is not only free of any foreign debts, but it has extended credit to several other countries.

Import-Export Talks' Results Viewed

LD151546 Tehran IRNA in English 1427 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 15, IRNA — Results of Tehran-Prague export-import commission talks as well as those of joint technical and industrial cooperation were announced in a meeting between Czech Deputy Minister of Industries Mr Culik and Iran's Deputy Minister of Heavy Industries for Economic and Trade Affairs Masud Karbassian, here Thursday.

Iran is to import steel sheets, diesel generators, machinery and tools from Czechoslovakia in 1987, and will export vehicles including mini-buses and ambulances as well as aluminum pipes to Czechoslovakia, announced the two countries' technical experts.

Khamene'i on Response to Iraqi 'Aggressions'

LD152324 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 15 Jan 87

["Text" of message issued on 15 January by Iranian President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i to the Iranian nation]

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that in the wake of barbaric aggressions by the Ba'thist-Zionist regime of Iraq against the sanctity of the country's cities and the martyring or wounding of a group of our fellow countrymen, President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i this evening issued a message to the Iranian nation.

In the message, Khamene'i urges the dealing of a resounding response to the perpetrators of such crimes and praised the selfless combatants of Islam in winning great victories during Karbala-5 and -6 operations.

The full text of the presidential message is as follows:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Esteemed fellow countrymen, brothers and sisters. During the past week the 'Aflaqite-Ba'thist enemy has continued its criminal acts which show its treacherous, cruel, weak, and abject nature, by targetting cities and civilian quarters with missiles and bombs tens of times over. It devastated the homes of innocent people, mosques, schools, and hospitals. Even the religious city of Qom and its sanctury of the family [of Muhammad, referring to Zinab Mosque in Qom] could not stay immune to its savage aggressions.

Our alert people expected this completely lunatic behavior from the ruler of Baghdad in the last part of his dark life, and they experienced examples of this during the last days of the shameful existence of the hated shah's regime. Be this as it may, observing such criminal acts must awaken the supporters of Saddam and those regimes that have remained beside that condemned and

satanic order. It must act as an ultimatum for such supporters. They must realize that this steadfast and resisting nation of ours will not forget the memories of such sensitive days and it will not forgive the misdeeds of those who have assisted the Baghdad regime in its grave crimes. We consider it our duty, despite our great self-restraint, to respond with a hard blow as a lesson. Naturally, our last and real response will be borne by our dear and heroic combatants on the battlefields.

While expressing my sincere and deep commiserations to the suffering families and to those who have given martyrs following missile and bombing raids recently, and also while uttering my felicitations and expressing my sorrow to the martyr's dependents, I voice my brotherly greetings and my thanks to the heroic and valiant combatants at the fronts. I sincerely wish for the continued blows by them at the body of the falling enemy, urging God to grant them victory and glory.

[Signed] President of the Islamic Republic of Iran Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i

Majlis Speaker Urges Forces to 'Final Victory'

LD161356 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Simultaneously with the impressive victories of the combatants of Islam, the politico-ideological sermons of today's Friday prayers were carried out throughout the country. Crowds of our country's heroic people, while chanting slogans of: War, war until victory!, while rejoicing the victories of the forces of Islam with happy faces, and while thanking the combatants of Islam, called for the relentless continuation of the operations until the fall of Saddam. This report states that Friday prayer leaders all over the country called on the people to continue their extensive participation on the battlefronts in order to guarantee the continuation of the victories. Just as they have always done through their extensive presence on the battlefronts, they prepared the ground for the latest victories.

The imam's representative in the Supreme Defense Council in the second sermon of the Friday prayers, referred to the issue of the war and the situation in the theaters of war, and stated: Two specific scenes in the war are worthy of study: One of these is the arena of war and the confrontations of the Armed Forces, and the other is the odious move by the Ba'thist Iraqi Party in conducting the cities' war. The imam's representative in the Supreme Defense Council, stressing that the situation on the battlefronts has reached a very critical and sensitive juncture in the length of the war, referred to the three operations of Karbala-4, Karbala-5, and Karbala-6, and stated: The Karbala-4 operations deeply misled the enemy and when the Karbala-5 operations started, the fact that the Zionist enemy has been deceived became clear. Today, leading astray spy satellites that cross the region's airspace, and duping domestic and foreign spies is one of the most difficult operational tasks. But, our combatants have been (?granted) God's grace in such junctures. Crossing the Shalamcheh maneuvers region at a place where the Zionist enemy is awake and alert is a risk that no staff officer would accept! Nevertheless, this was carried out.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani, describing the Karbala-5 operational sector and the fortified Iraqi defense lines to the east of Basra, unlike any in any part of the world, referred to the strategic importance of Basra in the region, and stated: Iraq's investment in the Karbala-5 operational sector is because of the importance of Basra in the region. The security of Iraq's supporters is also dependent upon Basra. If Basra should become like Abadan one day, life for Iraq would become extremely difficult because the Islamic Republic of Iran was able to live without Abadan, but the role of Abadan compared to that of Basra is really nothing! This is because of the very reason that Iraq must put up a resistance in Basra because all Iraq's vital and economic lines lie in Basra.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: The forces of Islam are continuing the war at a distance of two farsakhs [12 km from Basra] and this region has turned into a furnace for Iraqi forces. Every day, an Iraqi division in this sector is wiped out and loses its power to fight.

Emphasizing the point that with the multitudes of volunteer mobilized forces we can always secure the forces that are needed, Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani stated: Iraq cannot make up for the loss of its forces. We can therefore prepare the ground for what we want, here, and this is the place where the fate of the war must be determined.

The imam's representative in the Supreme Defense Council, declared that in the Karbala-5 offensive the Army aviation force conducted 200 sorties; the Air Force conducted more than 80 sorties without losing an aircraft; the antiaircraft units, downed 42 Iraqi aircraft; and the artillery, with its full-volumned and dense fire, turned on the enemy. All had very good coordination. He referred to the differences between the conquest of Al-Faw and Basra, and stated: Iraq did not want to bring in too many forces in Al-Faw, but in Basra, Iraq cannot wait and is forced to fight. Yet, Iran's goal in the Karbala-5 offensive is not Basra; our fundamental goal is the destruction of Iraq's war machinery and the opening of the path for the destiny-making movement.

We want to settle accounts with Iraq near Basra; we must secure those issues that are necessary for the future of the war. Our objective is quite clear. Here, it should become evident to the world which side and who possesses real strength. Is it these nations that are strong or is it the ramshackled powers that are taking refuge and hiding behind the facade of steel and the roar of their aircraft?

Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani then referred to the dimensions of the cities' war and stated In the cities' war, the Iraqi regime has demonstrated its filthy face and Saddam's lie — because he had declared 2 years ago that he would not hit cities — became blatantly clear. The Iraqi regime, by using missiles and bombing Iranian cities, has only demonstrated its odious nature to the people, and by bombing Qom, it actively demonstrated its opposition to Islam and the clergy.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani referred to the recent remarks by the Soviet minister of foreign affairs, and said: The Soviet minister of foreign affairs apologized about the remarks made by the USSR ambassador in the United States in connection with the deliveries

of arms to Iraq until we are ready to negotiate, and he stated that the Western media distorted the remarks by the Soviet ambassador. We accept this apology and we expect the Russians to be wise because the delivery of missiles and aircraft to Iraq will have an adverse effect.

Presently, the movement of the youths to the battlefronts from cities that have been bombed [by Iraq] is in fact more than from cities that are safe.

The imam's representative in the Supreme Defense Council emphasized the point that Saddam does not conform to any Islamic or international principles, and by killing (?deformed) children, and Arabs, Turks, and tribal residents in cities, he has shown his odious nature. He stated: The path is the same that the Grand Ayatollah Montazeri pointed out to the combatants, and that is the continuation of the operations. This continuation takes place through the support of volunteer groups on the battlefronts and equipment for the battlefronts. Our combatants on the fronts should know that if these steps and measures continue, we shall be victorious. If these steps (?slacken) the enemy will prepare itself. Now all conditions are prepared for the continuation of the Karbala-5 and Karbala-6 offensives. The nation, the leader, the successor to the leader, and all those who are interested in the fate of the revolution, call on the combatants to continue the work that they began so that they may arrive at final victory.

Iraqi Chemical Weapons, Air Attacks Protested

LD151844 Tehran IRNA in English 1829 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 15, IRNA — The Islamic Republic's permanent mission to the United Nations sent a letter to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar on Thursday drawing his attention to the renewed Iraqi use of chemical weapons as well as its air attacks on Iranian civilian areas. The letter was sent following recent Iraqi missile and air attacks on some Iranian cities including the holy city of Qom, as well as its use of chemical weapons against Iran's Muslim combatants on the battlefields, Tuesday.

On Tuesday, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati sent strongly-worded protest notes to international organizations, calling on them to take suitable measures to deter the Iraqi regime to discontinue its inhuman attacks against Iranian civilians.

IRGC Commanders Consider Future War Plans

LD151525 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] The Central Staff Command of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] announced that regional corps commanders throughout the country's provinces, at a meeting in the southern operational sector yesterday, studied assorted plans for securing forces and preparing operational units in order to continue the crushing blows by Islam's combatants.

During the meeting plans were put forward for dispatching the third phase of Mohammad Corps — may God's benedictions and peace be upon him and his scion! — which will be leaving for the battlefronts from all the country's provinces during the current week. While investigating the scale of countering the Iraqi regime's barbarous deeds in bombing populated areas, it was announced that the war commanders had worked out the necessary plans for continuing operations until the overthrow of the shaky and moribund Iraqi regime and that thanks to a vast presence by the Hezbollahi Islamic nation and the defenders of the Islamic Republic they will crush the aggression instigated by world arrogance!

Further on Combat Operations, Karbala-5, -6

Iraqi Air Attacks Reported

LD151730 Tehran IRNA in English 1717 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Esfahan, Jan 15, IRNA — Five civilians were martyred and 45 others wounded when Iraqi warplanes bombed residential areas here Thursday afternoon. Most of the martyrs and wounded were women and children. In this Iraqi air attack on this central Iranian provincial capital city, a bomb hit a bus stop martyring and wounding some people who were waiting for [the] bus. Also five houses and 11 cars were heavily damaged.

Iraqi warplanes had earlier raided nomad tents round the western town of Eivan-e Gharb [as received] in the western Iranian province of Ilam, on Wednesday, martyring two woman and wounding some others. Several tents were set ablaze in this enemy air raid on the civilians.

Having suffered set-backs on the war fronts, the Iraqi regime has subjected many Iranian cities to its missile and air attacks over the past few days martyring and wounding hundreds of civilians. It is regrettable that no international organizations have denounced Iraq for its criminal acts, which are clear violations of all international laws.

10 Iraqi Counterattacks Fail

LD151723 Tehran IRNA in English 1713 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala-6 Operational Theater, Jan 15, IRNA — Five Iraqi counterassaults in Karbala-6 operational theater, western fronts, were smashed Thursday by the Muslim combatants killing or wounding 500 more Iraqi soldiers. The enemy casualty toll since the start of the operations Tuesday night, stands at 3,000.

During one of the smashed counterattacks launched by Iraq's 2nd Corps, enemy warplanes dropped chemical bombs on Iranian positions wounding 30 combatants but failed to gain any advantage even by resorting to this cowardly measure. Heavy damage was inflicted on Iraqi military equipment in the crushed counter-offensives.

Iraqi forces have so far launched 10 counterattacks to retake the lost positions, but have met with abject failure each time sustaining bitter defeats. The Muslim forces have consolidated their positions in the region and are checking enemy activities.

Medical Cadres Called to War Fronts

LD151834 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Following the impressive victories of the soldiers of Islam in the Karbala-5 offensive, and the relentless, 24-hour efforts of the medical cadres in treating the wounded, Chief Commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps Mohsen Reza'i, in a message, has called on all medical staff, paramedics and their helpers, relief workers, and those serving the war-wounded to be present on the battlefronts and to speed the victory of the combatants of Islam.

'Predetermined Targets' Advanced Upon

LD151656 Tehran IRNA in English 1626 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Southern Operational Theater, Jan 15, IRNA — Muslim forces of Iran continued their advance towards the predetermined targets in the Karbala-5 operational theater Wednesday night and Thursday morning inflicting heavy life and equipment losses on Iraqi troops, reported Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters Thursday. The headquarters said that a large number of Iraqi soldiers including some ranking officers were captured in the latest Iranian thrust.

Scores of enemy tanks and armoured personnel carriers were destroyed, while many others were seized intact and instantly deployed against the enemy troops, Khatam ol-Anbiya' said.

Khatam ol-Anbiya' is the joint military headquarters of Iran's Army and the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC).

Iraqi MiG-25 Downed After Raid

LD152245 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Excerpts] In an heroic aerial fight, a fighter aircraft of the Islamic Republic of Iran Air Force engaged two advanced fighter aircraft of the enemy, which had bombed residential areas in Esfahan this evening. An enemy MiG-25 fighter aircraft was hit and downed.

An *Islamic Republic News Agency* report says that following an intrusion by a number of enemy fighter aircraft over Esfahan, a fighter aircraft of the Air Force, chasing the Iraqi aircraft, took off and engaged the enemy aircraft over western Iranian airspace. The Iranian fighter aircraft, during the first minutes of the battle targetted an Iraqi MiG-25, using an air-to-air missile, and downed it, thanks to the heroic and valiant efforts of the pilot. The other enemy aircraft, immediately after the downing of the Iraqi MiG-25, vacated Iranian airspace.

According to the same report, the remains of the enemy aircraft fell on Zagros mountains and a search is being mounted to find the wreckage. No reports have been received as to the fate of the pilot of the downed Iraqi plane. Furthermore, reports received from intelligence posts of the Islamic army indicate that of the two Iraqi MiG-25's which bombed Esfahan's residential quarters, only one landed at the Iraqi airbases. [passage omitted]

Iraqis Receive 'Heavy Blows'

LD160637 Tehran IRNA in English 0633 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 16, IRNA — According to reports reaching here, Iran's Muslim combatants in continuation of their victorious operations in the war fronts, have inflicted heavy blows on the Iraqi troops Thursday night and Friday morning.

Details of the victories will follow.

Iraqi Brigade 6 'Totally Smashed'

LD160652 Tehran IRNA in English 0646 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Khatem ol-Anbiya' Hq., Jan. 16, IRNA — In a heavy battle in Karbala-5 operational region Thursday night, Iran's Islamic combatants inflicted substantial casualites and losses on the enemy forces. The battle is still continuing according to latest reports reaching here Friday morning.

In their Thursday night assault, the Iranian combatants advanced towards pre-determined targets in the area and succeeded in destroying 50 mortar launchers and other armaments of the Iraqis. They also seized 30 enemy tanks and tens of other vehicles and personnel carriers. Another group of Iraqi troops were killed or wounded in the operation.

Latest reports said that Brigade Six of the Iraqi Presidential Guard despatched to the operational theater was encircled and totally smashed by the Islamic combatants of Iran. A military commander said that Brigade Six of the Presidential Guard was accompanied by Commando Brigade 11 of the Special Force and special troops from the Presidential Division.

So far, 75 Iraqi POW's taken in the assault have been transferred behind the fronts.

IRGC Shells Iraqi City of Zubayr

LD160704 Tehran IRNA in English 0659 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Khatem ol-Anbiya' Hq., Jan 16, IRNA — Economic and industrial centers in the Iraqi city of Zubayr (in the southwest of Basra) as well as Shoaiba air base (northwest of Zubayr) were shelled by long range artillery fire of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) at 13:00 GMT Thursday.

The Iraqi centers sustained heavy losses in the Iranian artillery attack launched in retaliation for recent enemy missile and air raids on Iranian cities.

Downed Iraqi Aircraft Total 41

LD151513 Tehran IRNA in English 1505 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Southern Operational Theater, Jan 15, IRNA — Another Iraqi warplane attempting to raid Iranian positions in this war theater was shot down by anti-aircraft fire of the Islamic combatants Thursday. With downing of this Iraqi jet fighter, the number of enemy planes downed since the start of the Karbala-5 operations last Friday reached 41.

42nd Iraqi Aircraft Shot Down

LD160708 Tehran IRNA in English 0702 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Khatem ol-Anbiya' Hq., Jan 16, IRNA — Another Iraqi jet fighter was shot down by Iranian fire at 04:50 GMT in Karbala-5 operational theater Friday morning. This brings to 42 the number of enemy planes downed in the Karbala-5 operational region since last Friday.

Counterattacks Repulsed in Karbala-6

LD160745 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Yesterday, in a heavy ground battle against the forces of the Iraqi 2d Division in the operational zone of Karbala-6 offensive, the fighters of Islam repulsed five major enemy counterattacks with great bravery and inflicted more losses and casualties upon the Iraqi forces. In the course of repelling these counteroffensives in some cases the fighters of Islam did hand-to-hand battle with the enemy forces and inflicted heavy losses upon them.

According to this report, in one of the counterattacks the Zionist enemy bombed the positions of the forces of Islam with chemical bombs, but she did not achieve anything from the beastly and inhumane measure.

Yesterday, in the course of repulsing the counterattacks of the aggressive enemy, 500 more Iraqi forces were either killed or wounded. In this way, so far 3,000 Iraqi forces have been killed or wounded in Karbala-6 offensive operational zone.

Part of 'Strategic Island' Controlled

LD160806 Tehran IRNA in English 0753 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala-5 Operational Region, Jan 16, IRNA — Iran's Islamic combatants Thursday night broke through enemy defence lines and fortifications and entered Bawarin Island in Shatt al-'Arab waterway. The Iranian troops after completing the siege of the strategic island, launched a lightning assault Thursday night crushing fortified defences of the enemy forces and entered the island.

The Islamic Army of Iran is now in control of a part of the island and is consolidating its positions. The Iranian combatants are engaged in heavy battles with the Iraqis in the island.

The Muslim combatants of Iran who are being backed by artillery fire were earlier engaged in a severe hand-to-hand fighting with the Ba'thist forces inflicting heavy losses and casualties on Iraqi Infantry Brigade 94 stationed at the island. Hundreds of Iraqi troops were killed, wounded, or captured by the Iranians. Heavy equipment losses were also inflicted on the Iraqis. Battle at the island was continuing with the Iranian forces holding the upper hand.

Island Command Headquarters Seized

LD160825 Tehran IRNA in English 0814 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Southern Operational Theater, Jan 16, IRNA — An Iraqi command headquarters in Bawarin Island in Shalamcheh region was seized and some ranking enemy commanders captured in the latest Iranian assault which started Thursday night. Five colonels are among enemy commanders captured by the Muslim forces of Iran.

The enemy command headquarters was taken over after the Iranian combatants had broken through enemy barriers and entered the island.

250 Iraqi POW's Evacuated

LD160837 Tehran IRNA in English 0820 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala-5 Operational Region, Jan 16, IRNA — While heavy battles with the Iraqi troops continue in Bawarin Island, the Islamic combatants have started evacuation of Iraqi POW's taken in Thursday night's assault, from the island. So far, 250 Iraq POW's have been transferred behind the war fronts.

The number of Iraqi POW's evacuated since Karbala-5 operation started in Shalamcheh region last Friday, has reached 1,685.

Iraqis Bomb Esfahan, Hamadan

LD160905 Tehran IRNA in English 0824 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Esfahan, Jan 16, IRNA — Intruding enemy planes again attacked civilian areas in Esfahan at 20:13 GMT Thursday. Two residential areas were bombarded as a result of which five people were wounded. A number of housing units were also damaged.

The city of Hamadan was also attacked by enemy planes at 21:00 GMT Thursday. A number of shops were destroyed in the Iraqi bombardment but no casualties were inflicted.

Alert Sounded During Friday Prayers

LD160923 Tehran IRNA in English 0921 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 16, IRNA — Red alert siren was sounded in the capital at 12:42 hours (09:12 GMT) Friday morning. The siren was sounded as substitute leader of Friday prayers in Tehran was speaking about Iraq's resumption of "war of cities" and its inhuman air and missile attacks on Iranian cities in which hundreds of civilian casualties have been inflicted.

Qom Bombed During Friday Prayers

LD161104 Tehran IRNA in English 1040 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Central Prov., Jan 16, IRNA — Iraqi warplanes bombed residential areas in this central holy city at 12:35 hours (09:05 GMT) Friday. Early reports said that two civilians were wounded and two houses destroyed. Four other houses were also damaged.

Intruding Iraqi warplanes had earlier bombarded the holy city of Qom on 14 January martyring 25 civilians and wounding 100 others.

The renewed Iraqi bombing of this holy city coincided with the Friday mass prayers in the holy city where multitudes of worshippers were listening to the sermons of the Friday Prayers leader Ayatollah Sane'i.

Iraqi III, VII Corps Bombed

LD161005 Tehran IRNA in English 1000 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Jan 16, IRNA — Iranian jet fighters heavily bombed armoured equipment as well as supply headquarters of Iraq's 3rd and 7th Corps in areas east of Basra three times Friday morning. The fighters returned safely to bases after the economic missions. The smoke billowing from the destroyed Iraqi armoured equipment has covered the whole Karbala-5 operational theater.

Baghdad, Abu al-Khasib Fired Upon

LD161100 Tehran IRNA in English 1057 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 16, IRNA — Two surface-to-surface missiles were fired at Baghdad and Abu al-Khasib in southeast of Basra at 13:08 and 13:20 hours (09:38 and 09:50 GMT) Friday. The Iranian missile attacks launched by the missile unit of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) were in retaliation for Iraqi missile and air raids on Iranian cities over the past few weeks.

A surface-to-surface missile was fired at the Iraqi War Ministry in Baghdad at 09:38 GMT and another hit military installations as well as troop concentration sites of Iraqi forces in Abu al-Khasib. Following their defeats in the Karbala-5 operation region the enemy forces are retreating towards Abu al-Khasib.

Iran's Muslim forces once more warned the Iraqi Ba'thist rulers to discontinue their savage attacks on Iranian residential areas otherwise they should wait for more severe Iranian reprisal attacks.

Communique No 13 Issued

LD161129 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Communique No 13 of the Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, the center of joint operations by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the Name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. And there is neither strength nor might except in God, the High, the Almighty! [verse from Koran]

The anti-blasphemy combatants of the monotheistic army continued their victorious Karbala-5 operations in a deadly assault on enemy forces in the Shalamcheh operational zone last night. After crossing the obstacles and fortifications of the Zionist enemy and destroying the 6th Brigade of Iraqi Presidential Guards and the 28th Infantry Brigade of the Zionist enemy, in the course of which more than 30 Iraqi tanks and APC's were wrecked, they succeeded in entering the island of Bawarin. They then besieged the 94th Infantry Brigade, killing or wounding a large number of Saddamist troops and, after occupying the brigade's command headquarters, they captured Colonel Muhammad Nasir al-Tibi, commanding officer of 94th Brigade, and four other colonels and several high-ranking officers. By destroying the 94th Infantry Brigade the Islamic combatants took control of a large part of the island of Bawarin.

With the victorious assault last night and this morning by Islam's combatants, more than 3,000 enemy troops were either killed or wounded thus the number of enemy casualties now exceeds 25,500.

80 'Successful' Air Sorties Reported

LD161400 Tehran IRNA in English 1341 GMT 16 Jan 87

[Text] Khatem-ol-Anbiya' Hq., Jan 16, IRNA — Iranian fighter bombers have carried out 80 successful sorties against the Ba'thist positions in southern Iraq in support of the Muslim combatants during the week-old Karbala-5 offensive, said an Air Force commander here Friday. The commander said that brave Iranian pilots put frontlines as well as rear positions of the enemy troops in a "hell of fire and smoke," and all returned safely to bases. Iraqi air activities in the operational region were also pounded by Iranian jets, he added.

Meanwhile, a commander of the Iranian Army Aviation Unit told IRNA here Friday that operations of the Iranian helicopter gunships, which have inflicted heavy losses and casualties on enemy forces since the outset of the offensive, were amazing. He said that Iranian helicopters have so far destroyed and damaged hundreds of tanks, armoured personnel carriers, heavy and light trucks, loaders, command jeeps, and other armoured and engineering equipment of enemy forces in 242 successful sorties. All helicopters returned safely to bases, said the commander, except one which developed some technical defects and had to make an emergency landing in area under the control of Iranian troops. The helicopter was immediately transferred to base and repaired, he added.

Communique No 2,717 Further Updates Operations

LD151539 Tehran IRNA in English 1535 GMT 15 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 15, IRNA — Iran's Muslim combatants have purged two more strategic heights in Sumar region, western fronts, in continuation of their successful Karbala-6 operations, said a military communique released by the Joint Staff Command of Iran's Armed Forces here Thursday.

The Joint Staff Communique Number 2,717 said that Iraqi counteroffensives to retake the heights were totally smashed and enemy troops fled the scene, sustaining heavy casualties and losses. The retreating enemy left behind, besides corpses, wreckage of several tanks and a large amount of its military equipment.

The military communique said that between 70 to 80 percent of three battalions of Iraqi Brigades numbers 108 and 606 were destroyed in the crushed Iraqi counterattacks.

Meanwhile, in Karbala-5 operational region, southern fronts, several Iraqi counter-assaults to recapture their lost positions were smashed by Iranian Muslim combatants and a large number of enemy tanks smashed.

Iranian jet-fighters heavily bombed Iraqi positions and troop concentration sites in the Karbala-5 theater four times Thursday inflicting irreparable casualties and losses on them. The fighters returned safely to bases after the bombing missions which took place at 03:40, 03:47, 09:24, and 09:57 GMT.

At least 100 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and 10 enemy vehicles destroyed in different parts of the southern and western fronts Wednesday when they were shelled by Iranian Gendarmerie forces.

Iran's Navy gunboats intercepted and inspected eight cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz Wednesday but allowed them to continue voyage after being convinced that there were no Iraqi-destined war-related cargo aboard them.

In the northwestern fronts, Iraqi troops sustained several casualties and losses and their engineering and logistical operations were halted by Iranian artillery fire on Wednesday, the communique concluded.